1. (Currently amended) An Automated Teller Machine, ATM, comprising:

    a) <u>a card reader which accepts a card from a user;</u>

    b) <u>a keypad for accepting a PIN from the user, for identifying the user;</u>

    c) <u>a cash dispenser for dispensing currency;</u>

    d) a media acceptor for receiving sheet media from ~~a~~ <u>an</u> <u>identified</u> user of the ATM<u>, which sheet media comprise</u> <u>banknotes or bank checks which contain wireless tags</u>; and

    ~~b)~~ <u>e)</u> a wireless tag reader ~~for reading~~ <u>which reads</u> wireless tags contained in received sheet media.

2. (Currently amended) An ATM according to claim 1, <u>in which</u> <u>(1) each banknote bears a visible unique identification code</u> <u>printed on the banknote and (2) the tag contained in each banknote</u> <u>contains the respective identification code of the banknote,</u> and further comprising<u>:</u>

    <u>c) means for comparing the identification code in the</u>

    <u>tag with the identification code printed on the banknote.</u>

~~a temporary storage facility which temporarily stores received~~ ~~sheet media until a transaction completes.~~

3. 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) A method of operating an Automated

Teller Machine, ATM, which ATM (1) includes a card reader, (2) accepts data or a card or both from a user for identifying the user, (3) contains a cash dispenser for dispensing currency, and (4) accepts deposits from users, the method comprising:

a) receiving ~~an item of sheet media~~ a banknote or check from ~~a~~ an identified user of the ATM;

b) detecting a wireless tag incorporated within the received banknote or check ~~sheet media item~~;

c) reading data from the detected wireless tag; ~~and~~

d) presenting the ~~read~~ data which was read to the user ~~for acceptance by the user~~; and

e) receiving an acceptance or rejection of the data from the user.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~6~~ 5, further comprising:

f) storing the identity of the user with data read from the wireless tags ~~in the media items deposited~~ to thereby identify the user who deposited the checks or banknotes, or both ~~media items~~.

8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 7, further comprising:

3

g) removing the deposited media items from the ATM;

h) validating the media items; and

i) ~~tracing~~ identifying the depositor of any ~~media item~~ check or banknote that is not validated.

9. (Previously presented) A method of destroying value of valuable media items having a substrate incorporating a wireless tag, comprising:

defacing the substrate while maintaining the integrity of the wireless tag so that the wireless tag may be subsequently read.

10. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

reading the wireless tags to determine the value of the media items that have been defaced.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

relaying to a remote center information about the media items that have been defaced.

12. (Currently amended) A storage facility for valuable media comprising:

a) a wireless tag reader for reading a wireless tag incorporated into a substrate of a ~~media item~~ bank check

4

or banknote;

b) a tamper detection system which detects tampering with the storage facility; and

c) defacing means in operative communication with the tamper detection ~~circuit~~ system and ~~for defacing~~ which is effective to deface the substrate without destroying the wireless tag when tampering with the valuable media store occurs.

13. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

a) receiving valuable sheet currency having a substrate which incorporates a wireless tag;

b) reading a unique serial code from the wireless tag; and

c) encoding the unique serial code onto the substrate so that the sheet currency can be validated by comparing the serial code stored in the wireless tag with the serial code encoded on the media substrate.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein the serial code is encoded in machine readable form to facilitate automated reading of both the wireless tag and the serial code.

15. (Currently amended) A valuable media item comprising:

a) a wireless tag;

b) a ~~substrate which contains~~ piece of sheet currency

which contains

    i)   a serial code,

    ii)   the wireless tag, ~~and~~

    iii)   data within the wireless tag which is an

encoded representation of the serial code; and

iv) a denomination which indicates value of

the sheet currency in dollars.

16. (Currently amended) A method of operating an Automated
Teller Machine, ATM, which ATM (1) includes a card reader, (2)
accepts data or a card or both from a user for identifying the
user, (3) contains a cash dispenser for dispensing currency, and
(4) accepts deposits from users, comprising:

a) storing a plurality of media items, which consist of
banknotes or checks, each having a substrate
incorporating a wireless tag,

b) preparing media items for dispensing to a user;

c) reading the wireless tags incorporated into the
prepared media items;

d) presenting the media items to a user for removal;

e) retracting the presented media items when the user
does not remove the media items within a predetermined
time period;

f) reading the wireless tags incorporated into the
presented media items; and

g)   recording any discrepancy between the media items

presented and the media items retracted.

17.   (Currently amended) An Automated Teller machine, ATM,

comprising:

a)   a card reader which accepts an ATM card from a user;

b)   a keypad for accepting a PIN from the user, for

identifying the user;

c)   a cash dispenser for dispensing currency;

a) d) a ~~media~~ currency dispenser including a presenter

module for presenting a bunch of ~~media items~~ sheet

currency to ~~a~~ an identified user of the ATM, the bunch

containing sheets of currency which contain wireless

tags; and

b) e) a wireless tag reader for

(i)   reading ~~media items~~ pieces of sheet

currency when they are presented to a

user and

(ii) reading ~~media items~~ pieces of sheet

currency when they are retracted from

availability to the user.

18.   (Currently amended) An Automated Teller Machine, ATM,

comprising:

a)   a card reader which accepts an ATM card from a user;

b)   a keypad for accepting a PIN from the user, for
identifying the user;

c)   a cash dispenser for dispensing currency;

~~a)~~ d)   means for supporting a stack of sheet currency
~~media items~~, some or all of which contain wireless tags;

~~b)~~ e)   a media sensor for reading the wireless tag in
each ~~media item~~ sheet of currency.

19.   (Currently amended)   In an Automated Teller Machine, ATM,
which (1) includes a card reader, (2) accepts data or a card or
both from a user for identifying the user, (3) contains a cash
dispenser for dispensing currency, and (4) accepts deposits from
users, a method of analyzing a stack of sheet currency ~~media items~~,
each ~~item~~ sheet having a wireless tag incorporated in a substrate,
the method comprising:

a)   using a tag reader to read the wireless tags; and

b)   ascertaining the number of ~~sheet media items~~ sheets
of currency in the stack based on

    i)   the number of tags read or

    ii)   serial numbers read from the tags.

20.   (Cancelled)

8